
SELF-HEALING COATINGS WITH MULTI-LEVEL PROTECTION BASED ON ACTIVE NANOCONTAINERS

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Protective coatings on metallic substrates

- +Aesthetic properties
- +Tailored surface properties
- +Good barrier against corrosive species
- Lack of self-healing

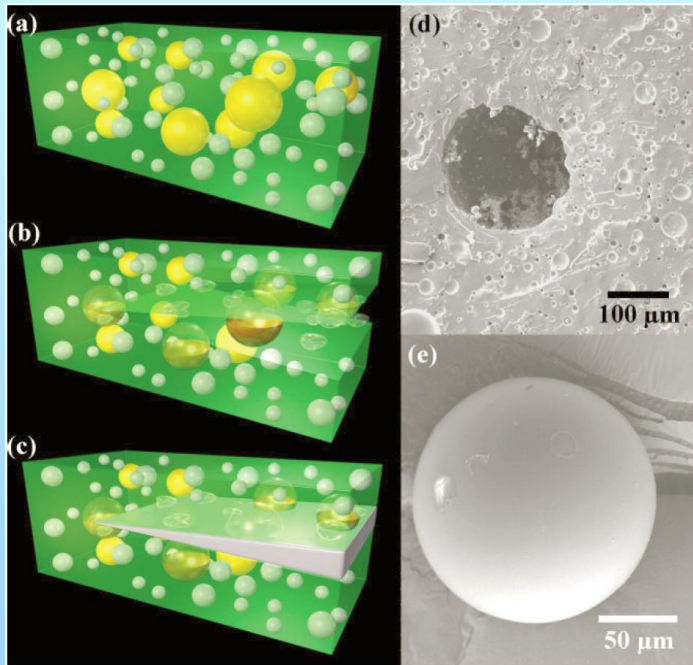


Passive + active
Coating + Active Healing Agent

+Combination of barrier and self-healing

Definition of Self-Healing

The term “**self-healing**” in materials science means self-recovery of the mechanical integrity and initial properties of the material after destructive actions of external environment or under influence of internal stresses.



Self-healing composite consisting:

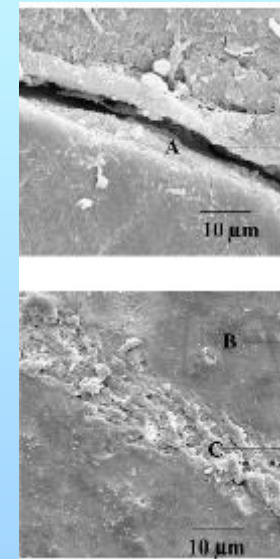
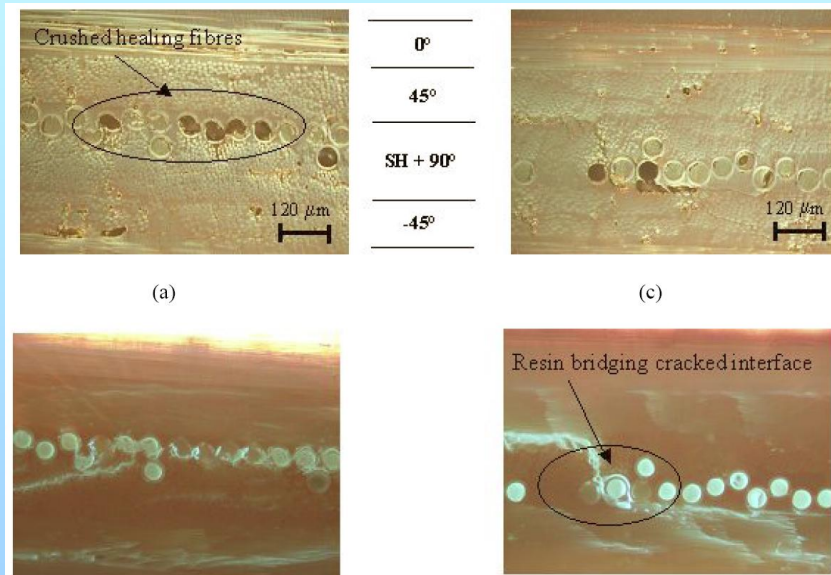
- microencapsulated catalyst (yellow)
- phase-separated healing-agent droplets (white)
- matrix (green)

B.S.H. Cho, H.M. Andersson, S.R. White, N.R. Sottos, P.V. Braun, *Adv. Mater.* **2006**, *18*,997-1000.

Self-Healing Protective Coatings

The classical understanding of self-healing is based on the complete recovery of the coating functionalities due to a real healing of the defect retrieving initial coating integrity

GFRP
HGF+Re



•coating

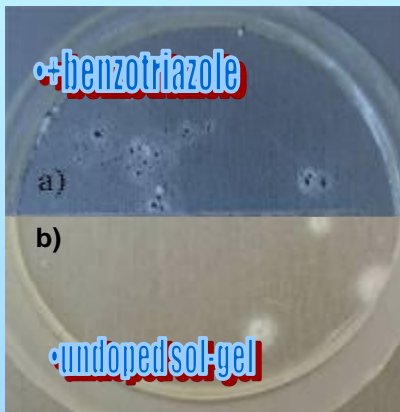
•bohemite

- R.S. Trask, G.J. Williams, I.P. Bond, *J. R. Soc. Interface.* 2007, 4, 363-371.
- T. Sugama, K. Gawlik, *Mater. Lett.* 2003, 57, 4282-4290.

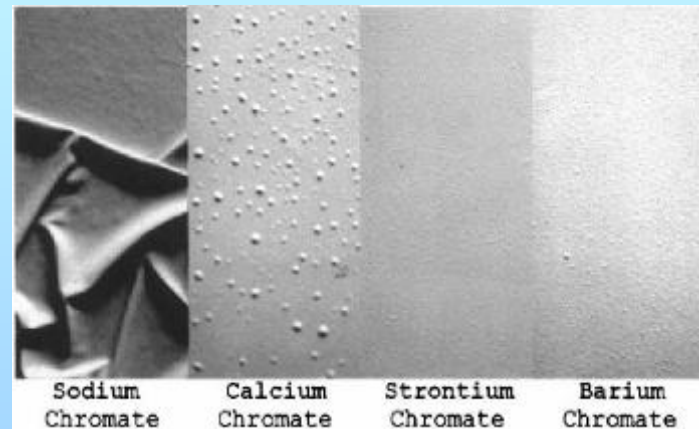
CORROSION SELF-HEALING

The hindering of the corrosion activity in a defect in a coating by any mechanism can be considered as corrosion self-healing

• Examples of negative effect of active agents



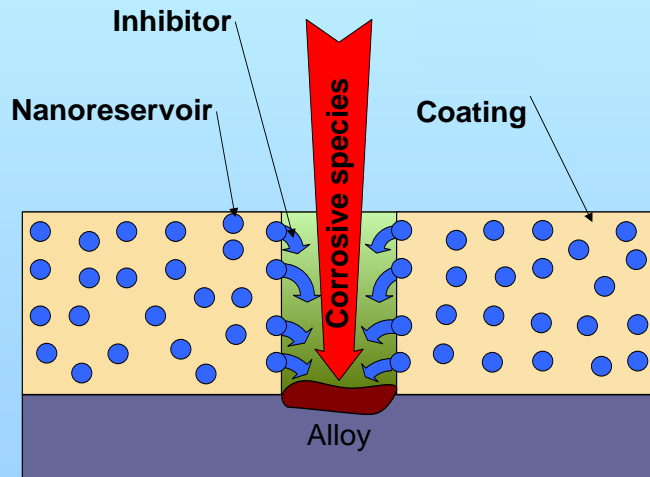
↑
Low hydrolytical stability



↑
Osmotic blistering

Active agent must be **encapsulated** in order to prevent its interaction with components of coatings!!!

Nano-encapsulation of corrosion inhibitors before addition to the coating



Possible Advantages

- ✓ Reduction of negative effect of the inhibitor on coating
- ✓ Prevention of inhibitor deactivation due to interaction with coating components
- ✓ Controllable release of inhibitor on demand

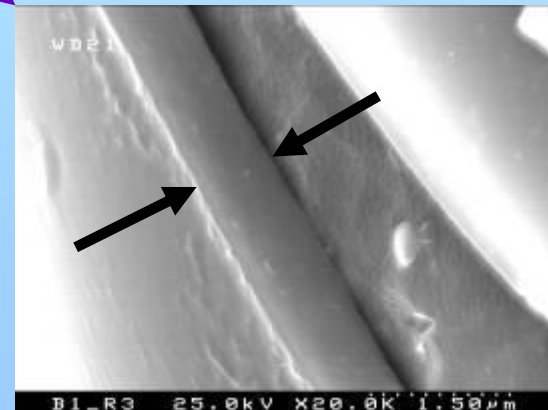
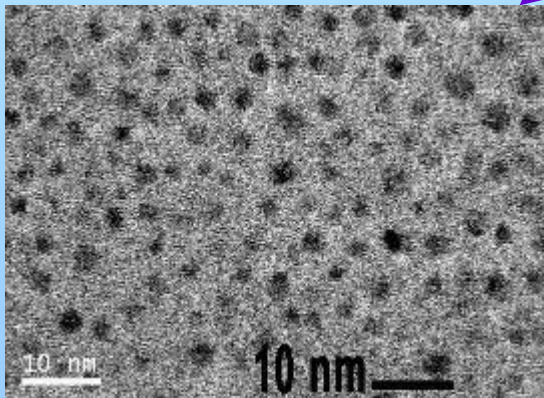
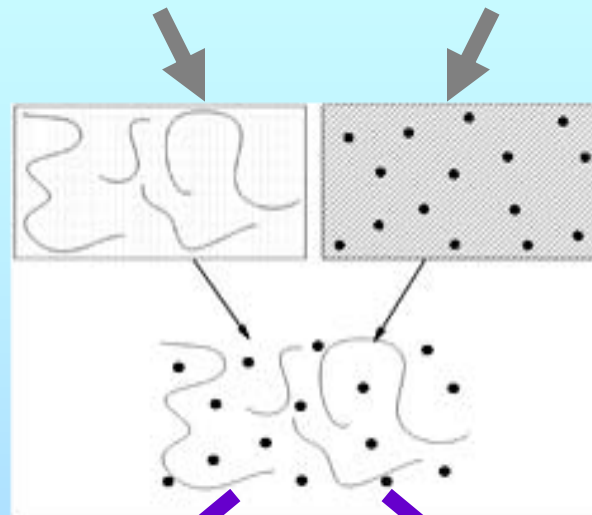
Types of Nanocontainers

- Oxide nanoparticles
- Porous nanostructured layers
- LbL constructed nanocontainers
- Halloysite nanocontainers
- LDH nanocontainers

In-situ formed oxide nanoparticles as reservoirs of corrosion inhibitors

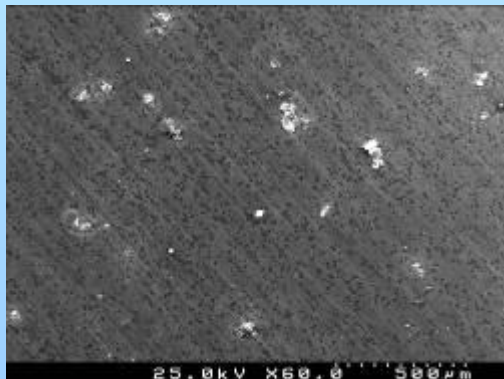
GPTMS + 2-propanol+H₂O

TPOZ + H₂O + Ce³⁺

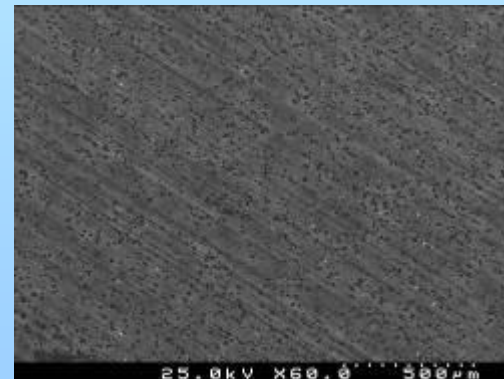


Corrosion protection performance of nanocomposite films

without inhibitor



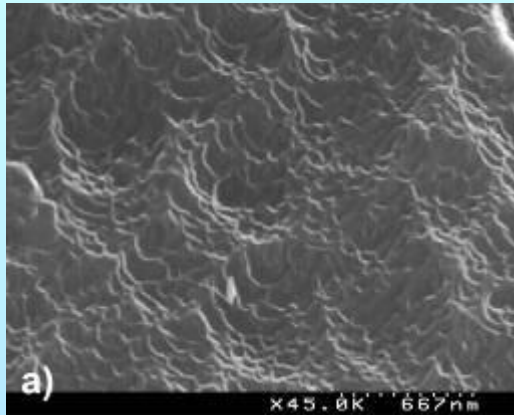
with inhibitor



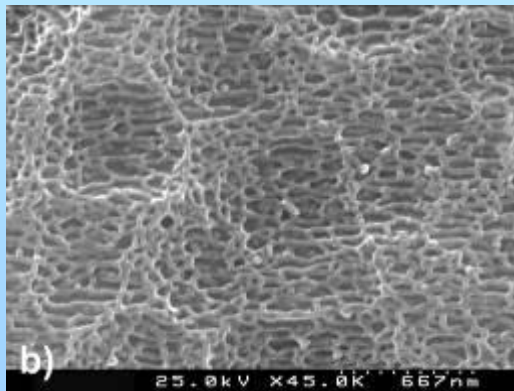
1 month immersion in 3% NaCl solution

Porous layer as nanostructured reservoir of corrosion inhibitor

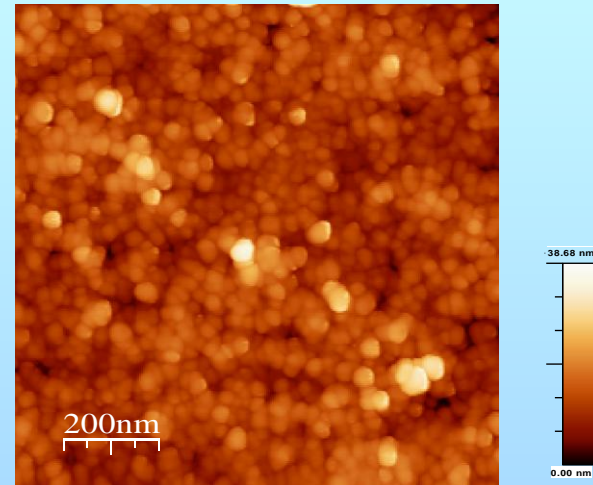
- Structure of the nano-titania layer deposited on polished and etched alloy



• Etched alloy



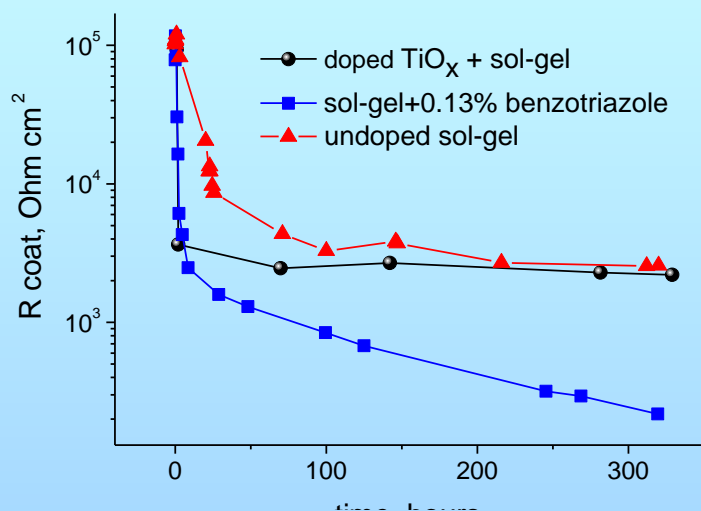
• Etched alloy + titania



The micelle-template approach can be used to obtain porous nanostructured titania pre-layer before hybrid film deposition

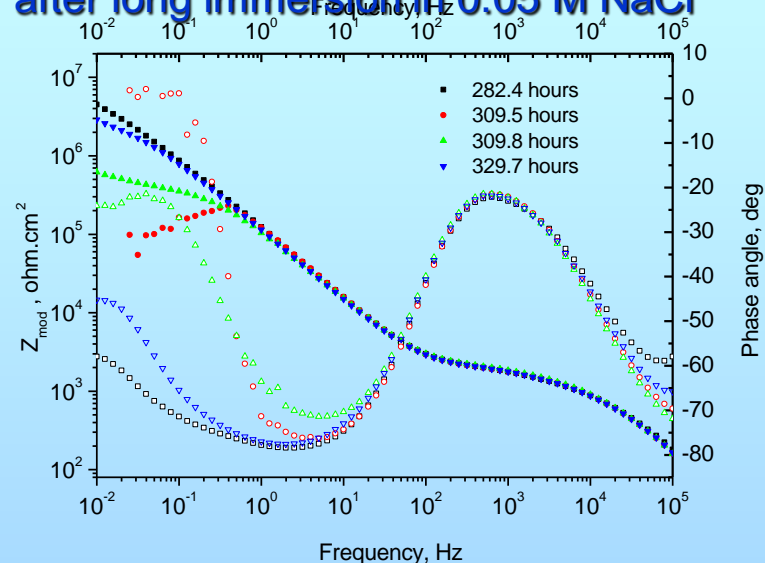
Porous layer as nanostructured reservoir of corrosion inhibitor

Evolution of pore resistance for different hybrid films



Use of nanostructured porous reservoir prevents degradation of sol-gel film due to introduction of inhibitor

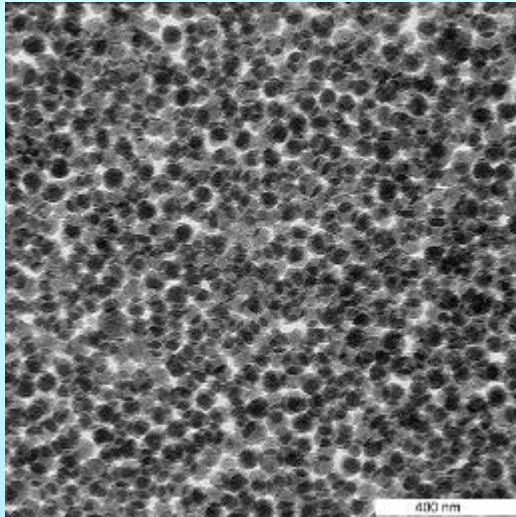
Bode diagrams for two-layer system after long immersion in 0.05 M NaCl



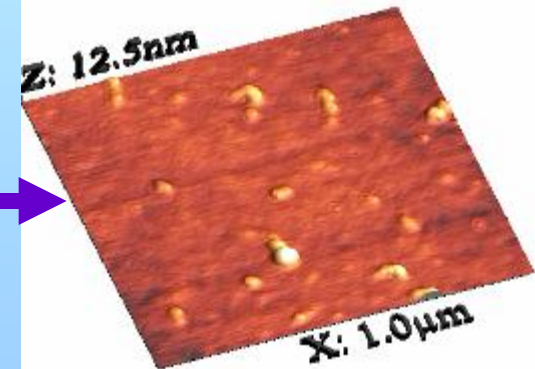
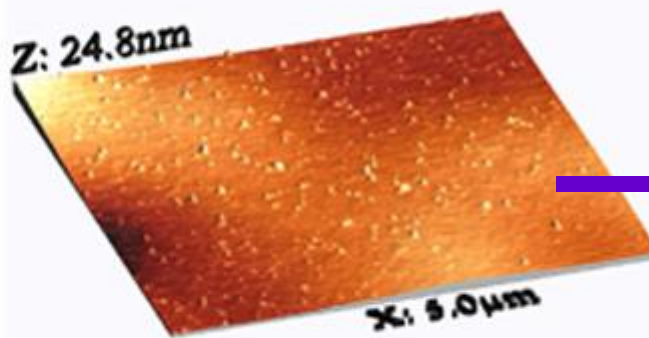
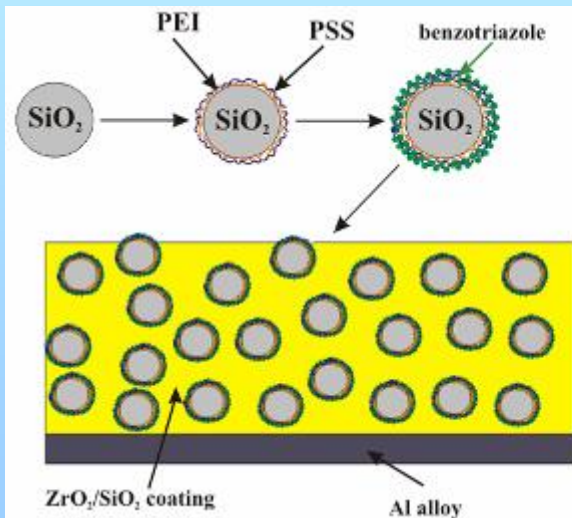
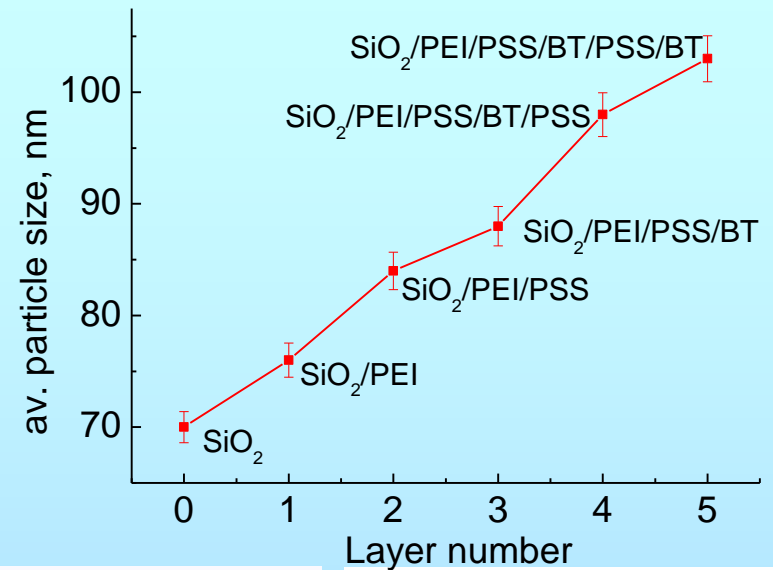
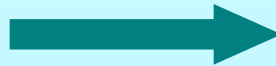
Increase of low frequency impedance is originated from defect passivation

Two-layer system demonstrates promising results with signs of self-healing effect

LbL polyelectrolyte nanocontainers for inhibitor encapsulation



Layer by Layer
assembling process



Self-healing of an artificial defect

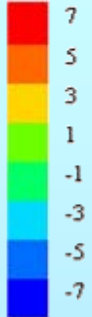
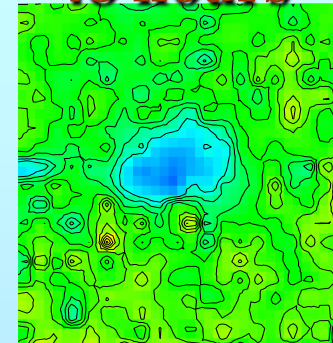
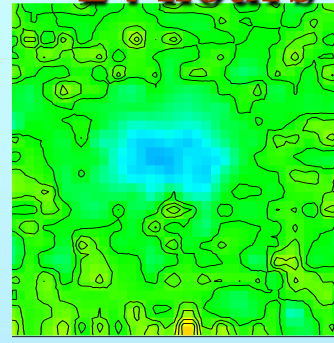
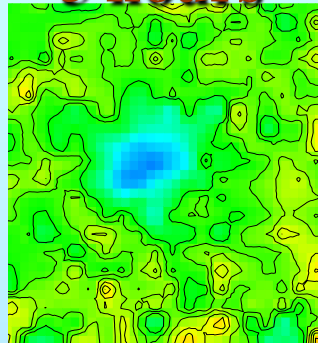
SVET maps

5 hours

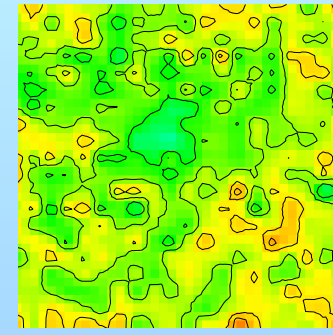
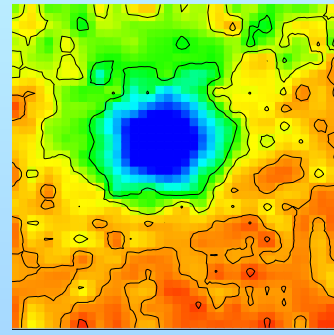
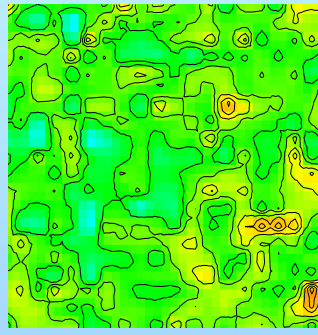
24 hours

48 hours

undoped

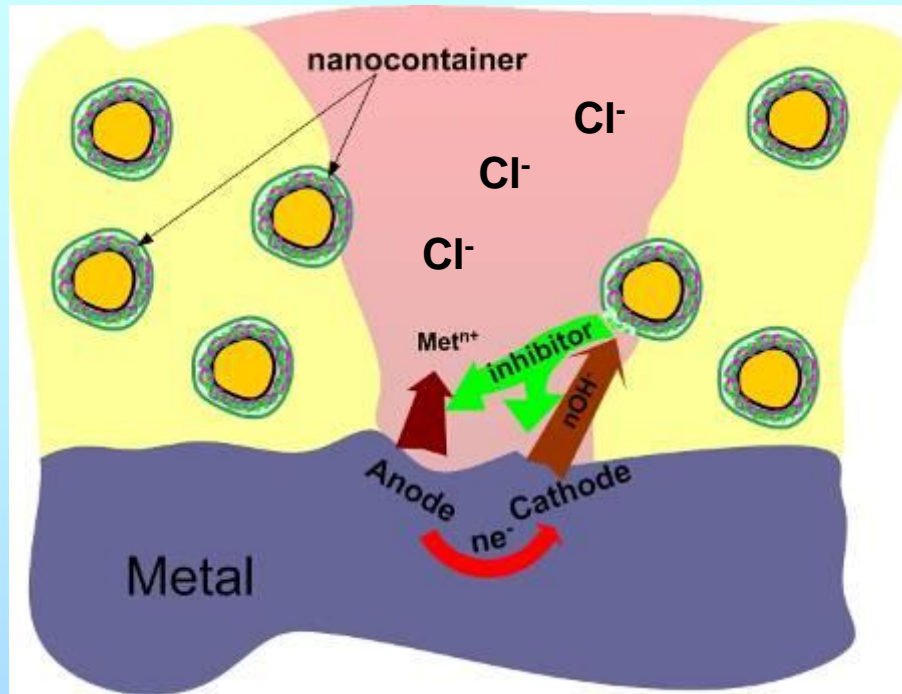


nanocontainers
+benzotriazole



Suppression of the active corrosion processes demonstrates self-healing of artificial defect in sol-gel film doped with nanocontainers loaded with benzotriazole

Mechanism of “smart” self-healing



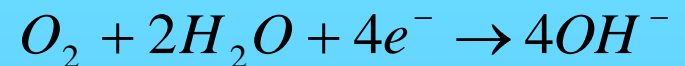
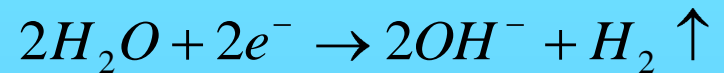
Induced defect opens pathway for chloride ions



Corrosion processes start on the alloy surface



Cathodic reactions generate hydroxyls leading to local increase of pH:



Raise of pH increases permeability of polyelectrolyte shell leading to release of inhibitor

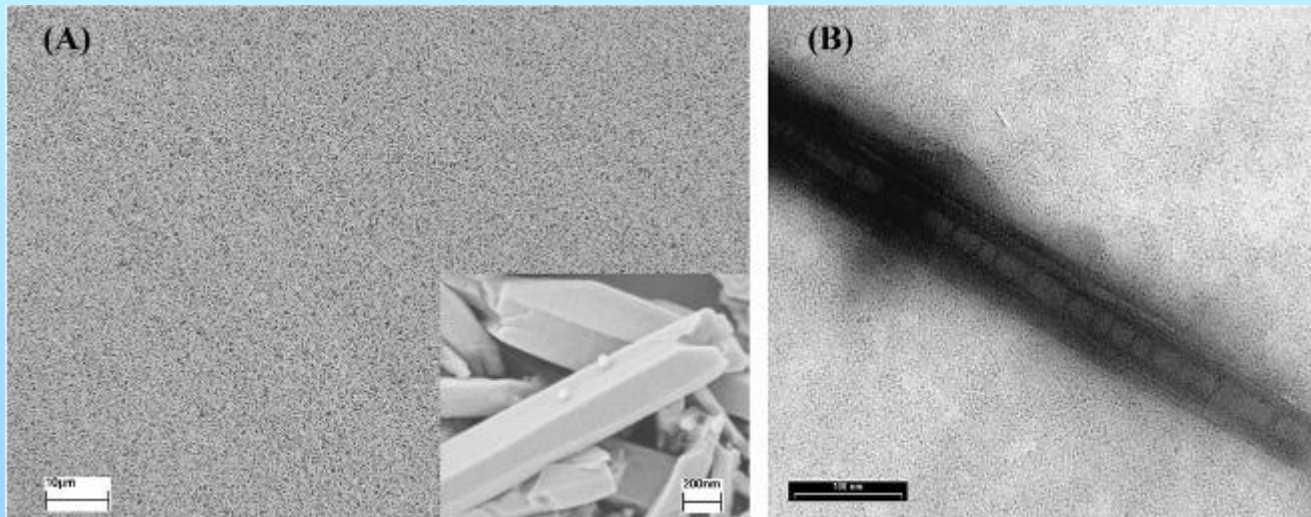


Released benzotriazole hinders corrosion activity healing the defect

Halloysite as nanocontainers of corrosion inhibitor

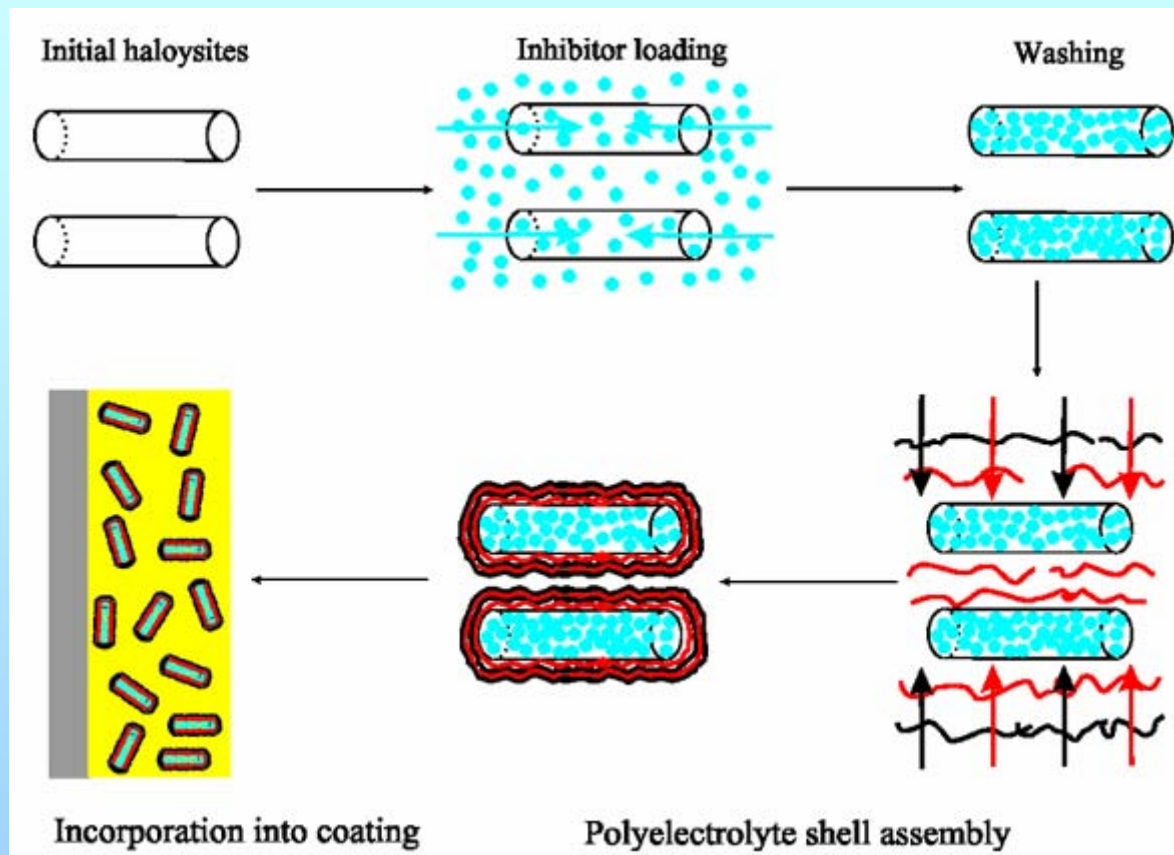
Halloysite is defined as a two-layered aluminosilicate, which has a hollow tubular structure in the submicrometer range.

The halloysite tubules are very small with a typical size of less than $3.0\ \mu\text{m}$ long \times $0.3\ \mu\text{m}$ outer diameter and have an inner diameter of 10–150 nm depending on the types.



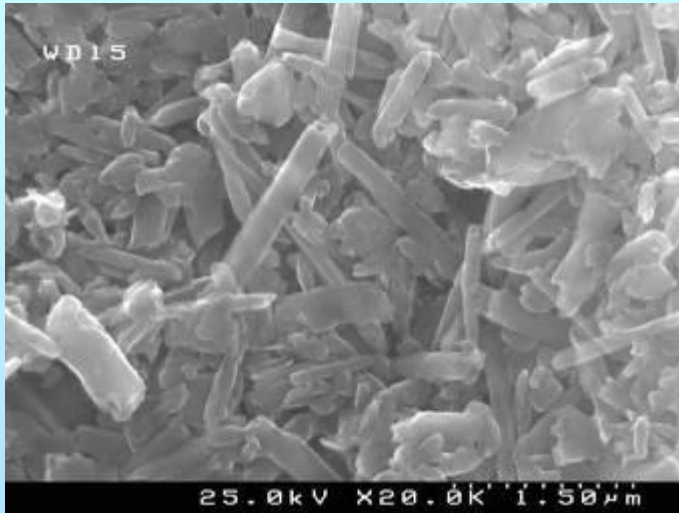
SEM (A) and TEM (B) images of the halloysite nanotubes

Halloysite as nanocontainers of corrosion inhibitor



Fabrication of 2-mercaptobenzothiazole-loaded halloysite/polyelectrolyte nanocontainers

Halloysites nanocontainers with PE shell

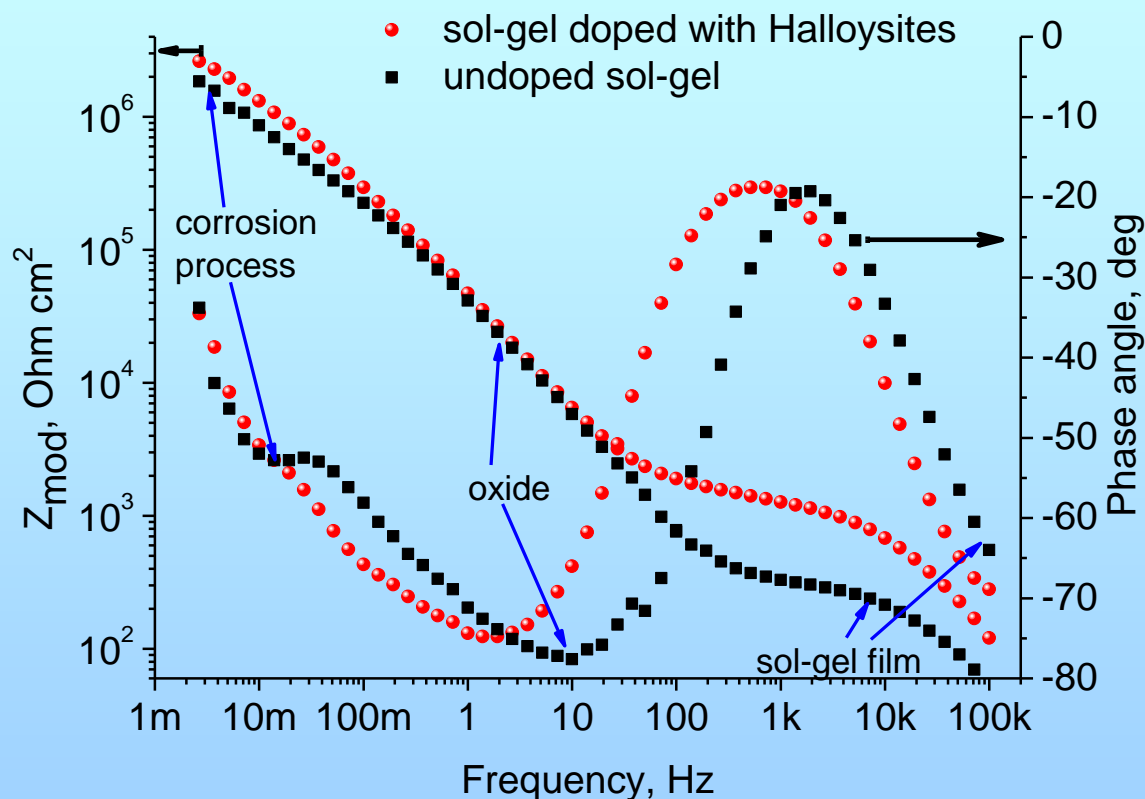


**2-mercaptobenzothiazole-loaded
halloysite/polyelectrolyte
nanocontainers**



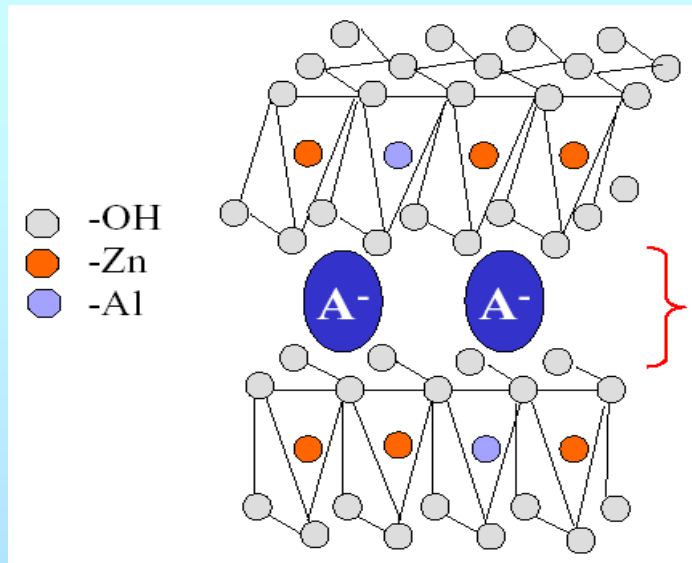
Nanocontainers in hybrid coating

Corrosion protection properties of hybrid films doped with halloysite nanocontainers



Impedance spectra of undoped and halloysites doped sol-gel coatings after 2 week immersion test in 3% NaCl

LDH nanocontainers



Layered double hydroxide (LDH) powders:

- 1) Mg^{2+}/Cr^{3+} (2:1)
- 2) Mg^{2+}/Al^{3+} (2:1)
- 3) Zn^{2+}/Al^{3+} (2:1)

Inhibiting anions:

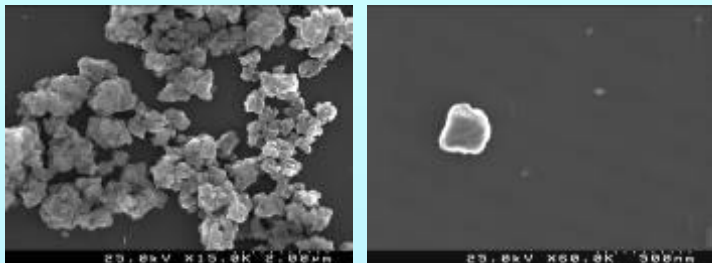
- Mercaptobenzothiazole (MBT)
- Quinaldic acid (QA)
- Vanadate
- Tungstate
- Molybdate

Two ways of pigment preparation:

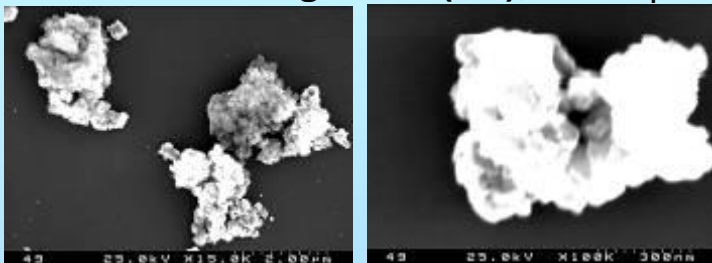
- direct synthesis (-formation of insoluble salts/complexes)
- ion-exchange

Mg/Cr LDH pigments

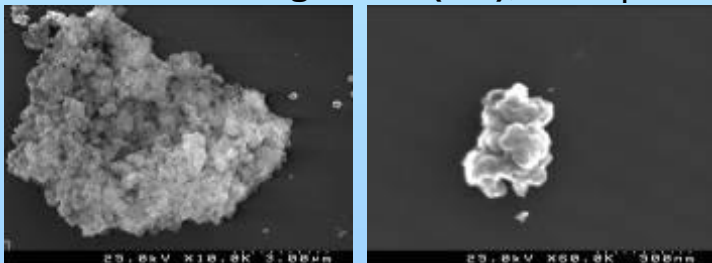
Mg²⁺/Cr³⁺ (2:1), Cl⁻



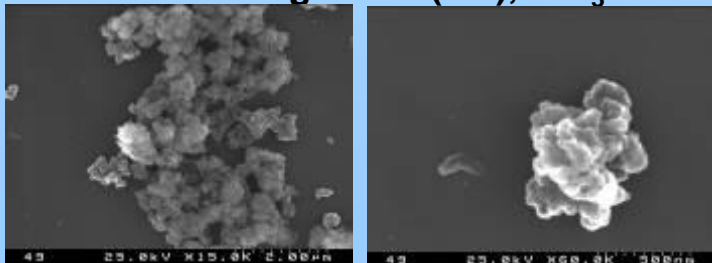
Mg²⁺/Cr³⁺ (2:1), MoO₄²⁻



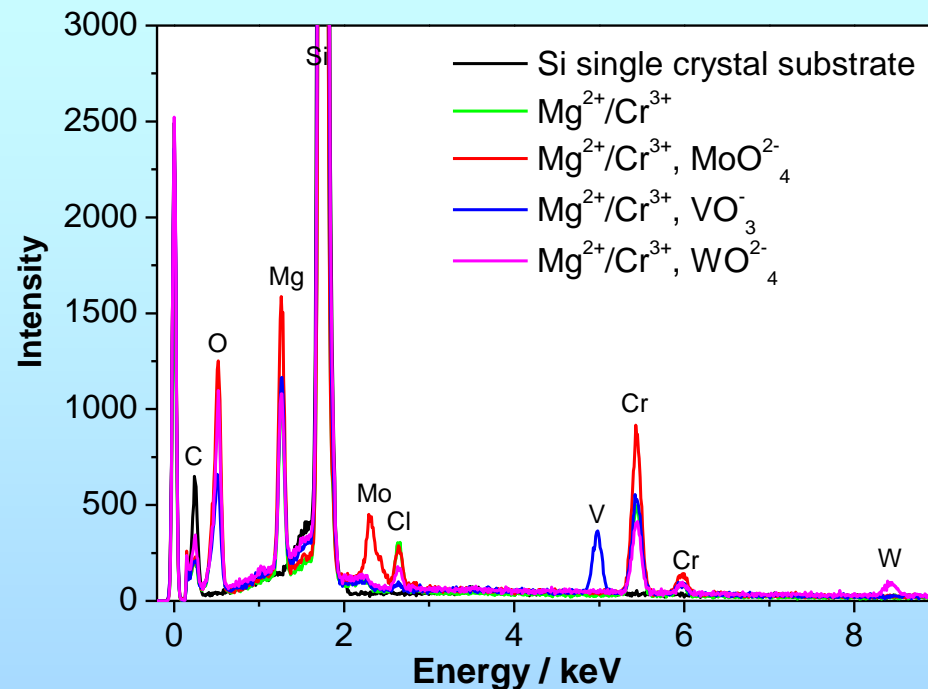
Mg²⁺/Cr³⁺ (2:1), WO₄²⁻



Mg²⁺/Cr³⁺ (2:1), VO₃⁻



EDS of initial LDH powders :



Composition of LDH powders in at. % by EDS.

| Powder | Mg | Cr | Mo | V | W | O |
|---------------------------------------|-------|------|------|------|------|-------|
| Mg/Cr, Cl ⁻ | 4.73 | 2.37 | --- | --- | --- | 91.90 |
| Mg/Cr, MoO ₄ ²⁻ | 10.02 | 7.28 | 4.48 | --- | --- | 76.84 |
| Mg/Cr, WO ₄ ²⁻ | 2.50 | 1.24 | --- | --- | 0.32 | 95.67 |
| Mg/Cr, VO ₃ ⁻ | 3.55 | 1.65 | --- | 1.03 | --- | 93.72 |

Mg/Cr LDH pigments

Photos of AA2024 samples after corrosion tests during 14 days
(50 mg of LDH was added to 10 ml of 0.05 M NaCl)

0.05M NaCl



0.05M NaCl + Mg²⁺/Cr³⁺, Cl⁻



0.05M NaCl + Mg²⁺/Cr³⁺, MoO₄²⁻



0.05M NaCl + Mg²⁺/Cr³⁺, WO₄²⁻

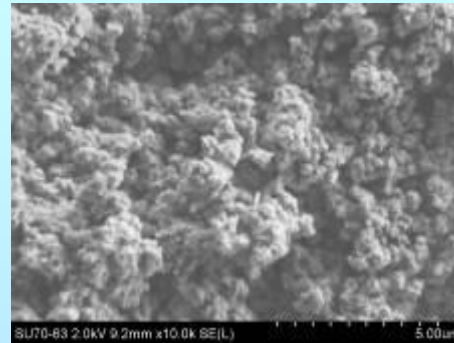
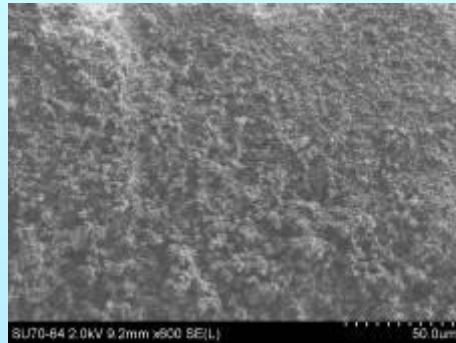


0.05M NaCl + Mg²⁺/Cr³⁺, VO₃⁻

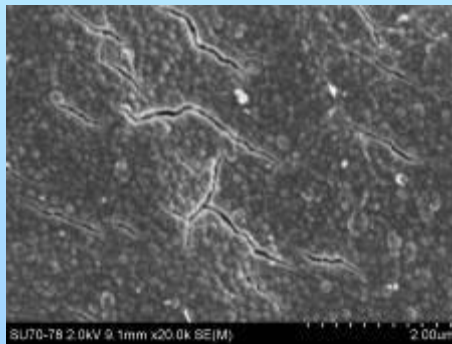
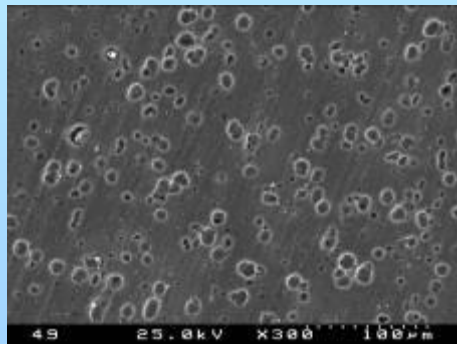


Mg/Cr LDH pigments

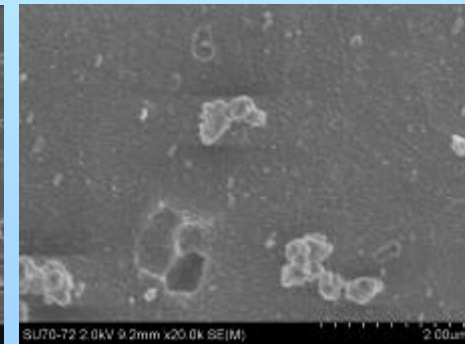
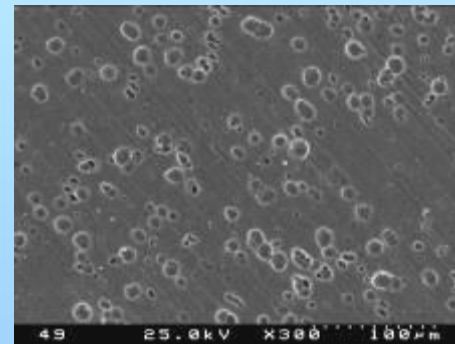
Al in 0.05M NaCl



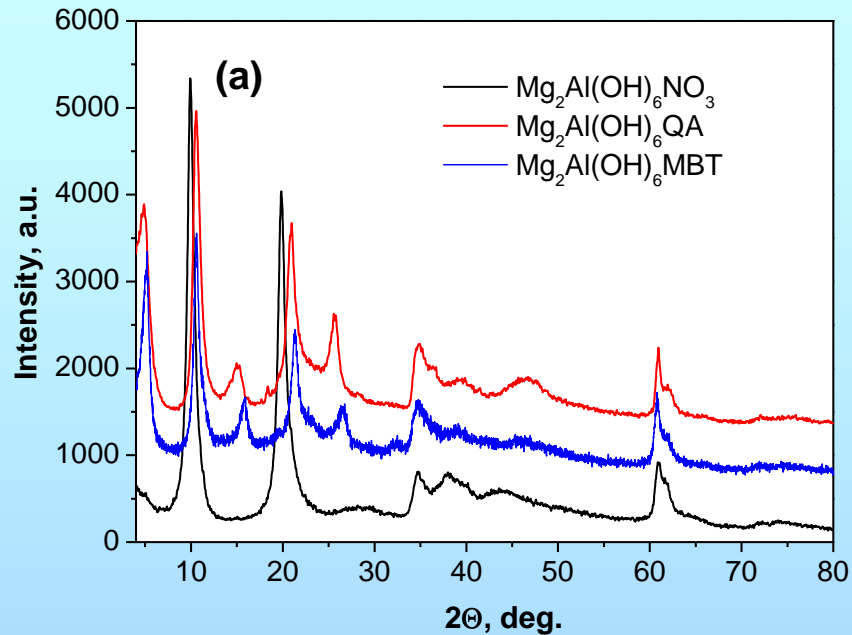
Al in 0.05M NaCl + $\text{Mg}^{2+}/\text{Cr}^{3+}$, MoO_4^{2-}



Al in 0.05M NaCl + $\text{Mg}^{2+}/\text{Cr}^{3+}$, VO_3^-



Mg-Al LDH pigments



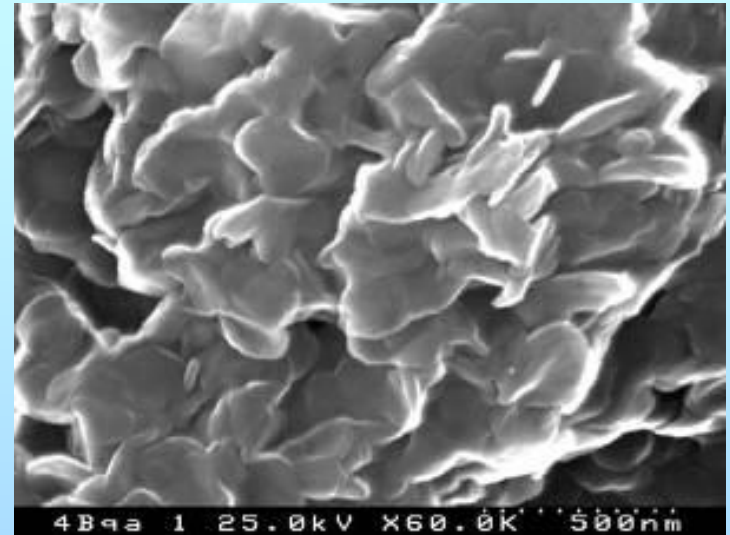
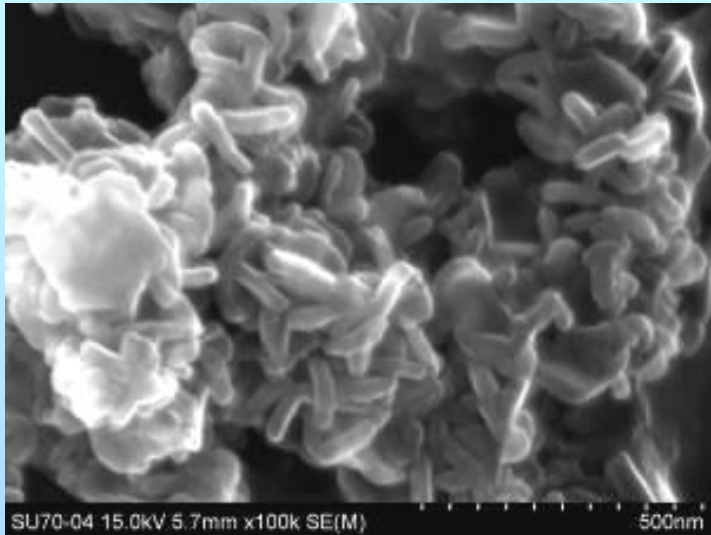
$d(003)$

- $\text{Mg}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{NO}_3$ - 0.8909 nm
- $\text{Mg}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{QA}$ - 1.78 nm
- $\text{Mg}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{MBT}$ - 1.71 nm

The average size of LDH nanocrystallites:

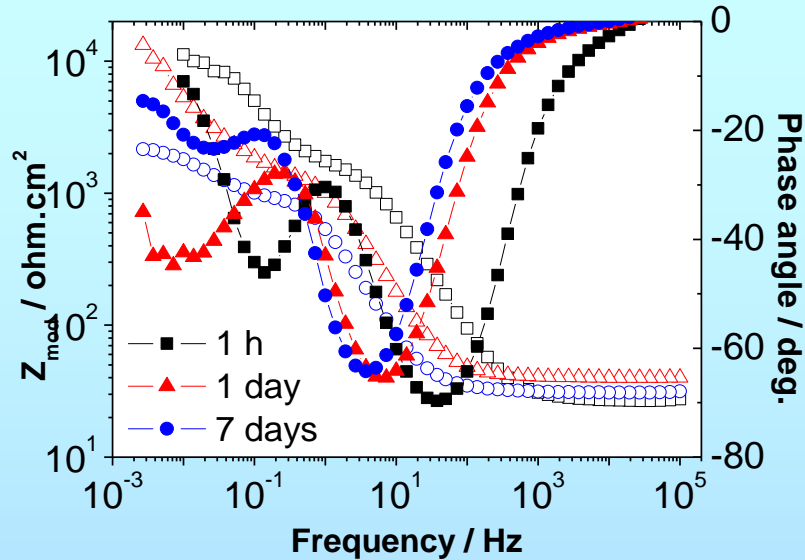
- 12 nm - $\text{Mg}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{NO}_3$
- 14 nm - $\text{Mg}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{QA}$
- 14 nm - $\text{Mg}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{MBT}$

Mg-Al LDH pigments

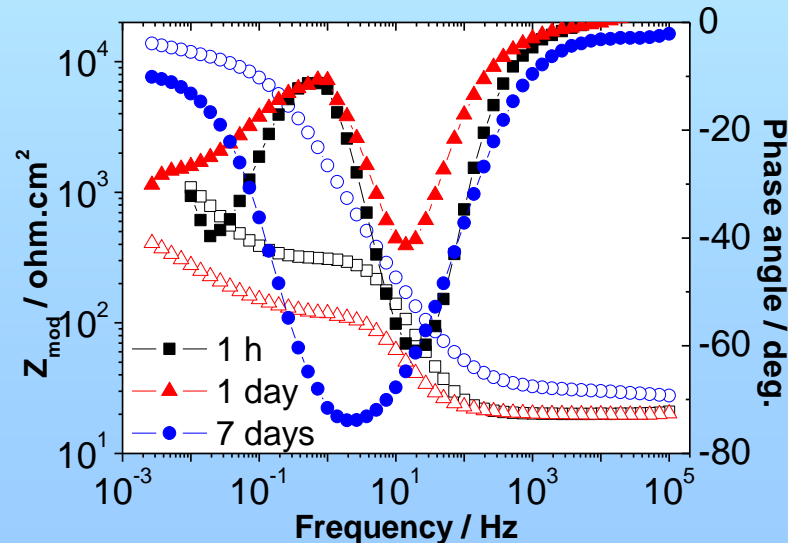
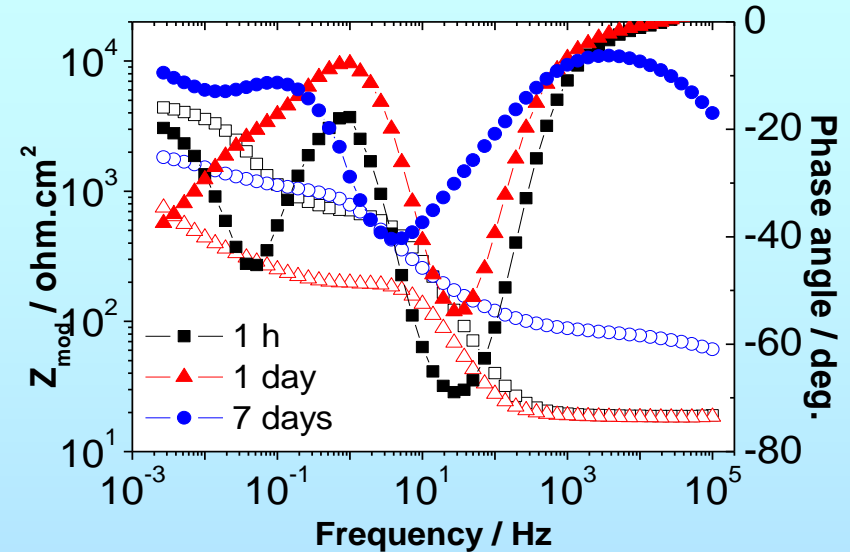


Corrosion efficiency of LDH pigments

0.05 M NaCl

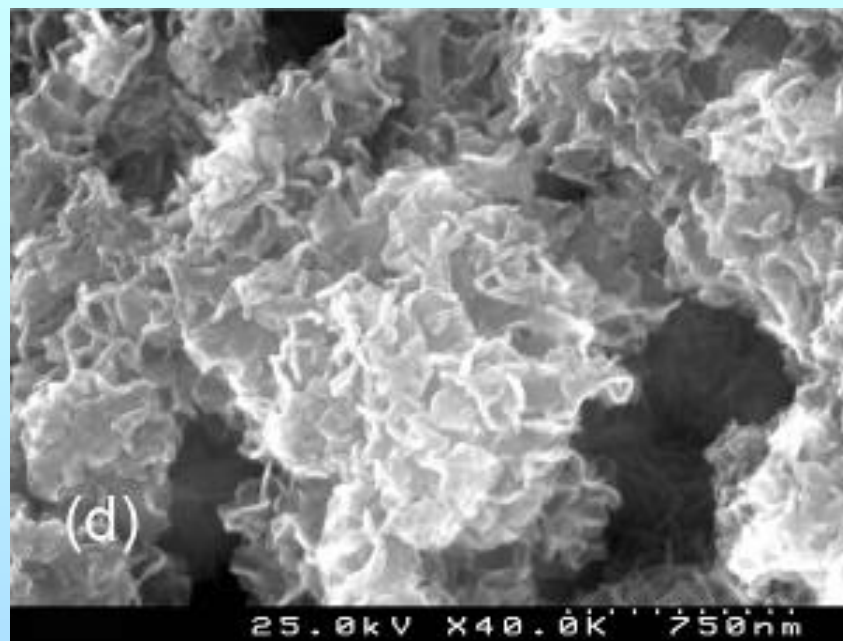
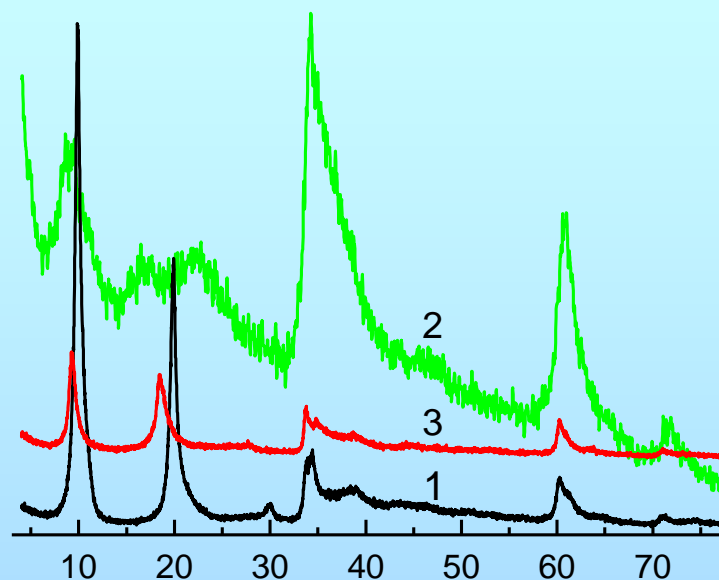


$\text{Mg}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{QA} + 0.05 \text{ M NaCl}$



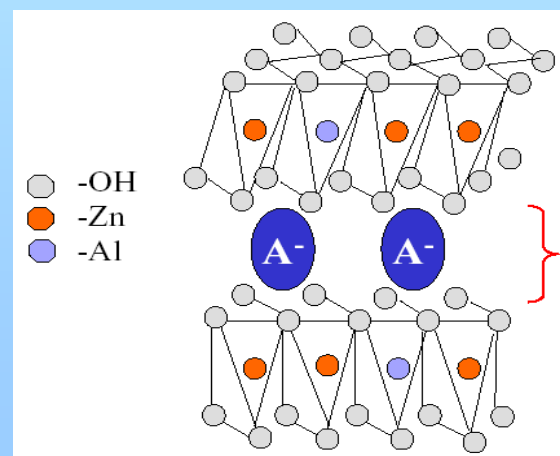
$\text{Mg}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{MBT} + 0.05 \text{ M NaCl}$

Zn-Al LDH pigments

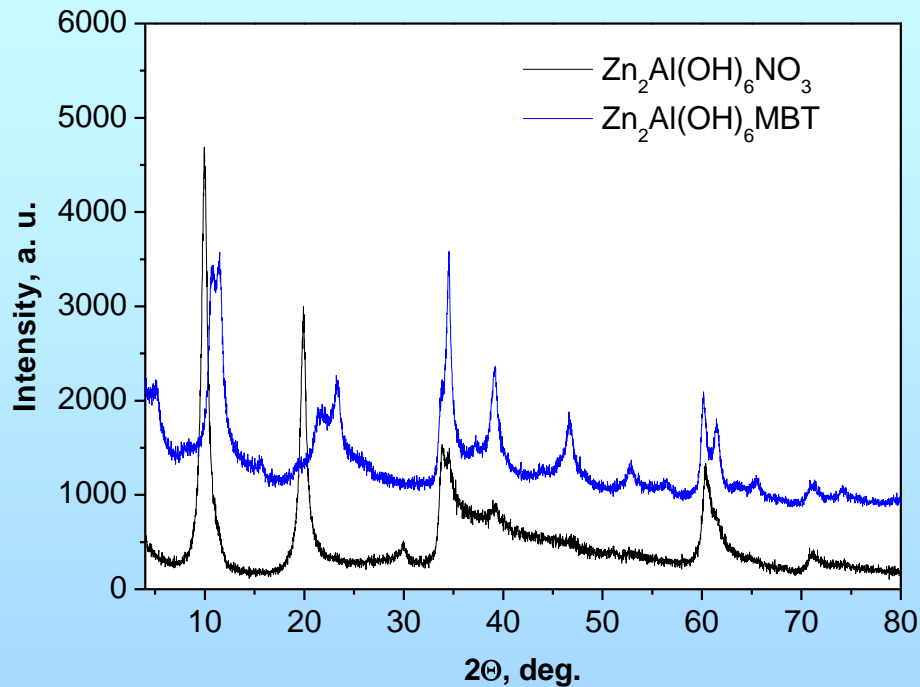


X-ray diffraction patterns for Zn-Al LDHs

- 1 – NO_3^- d(003) 0.8892nm
- 2 - VO_3^- by direct synthesis d(003) 0.9262nm
- 3 - VO_3^- by anion exchange



Zn-Al LDH pigments

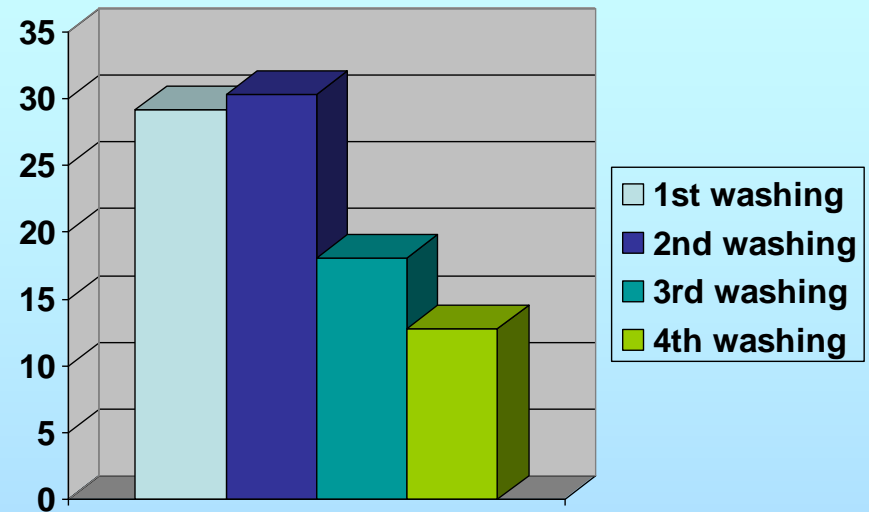
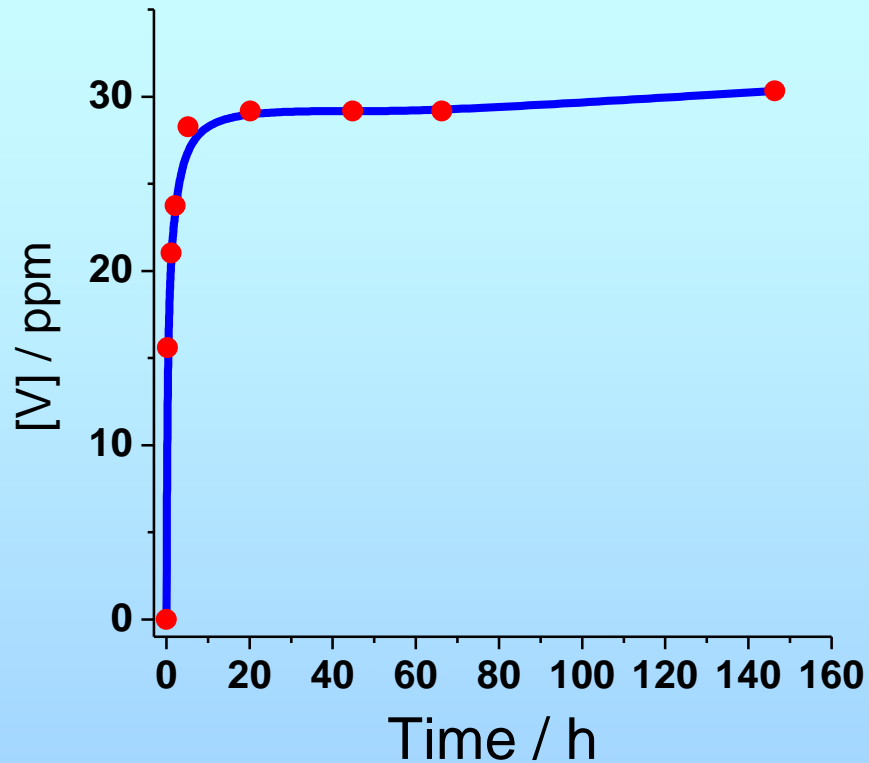


d(003)

$\text{Zn}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{NO}_3$ - 0.8892 nm

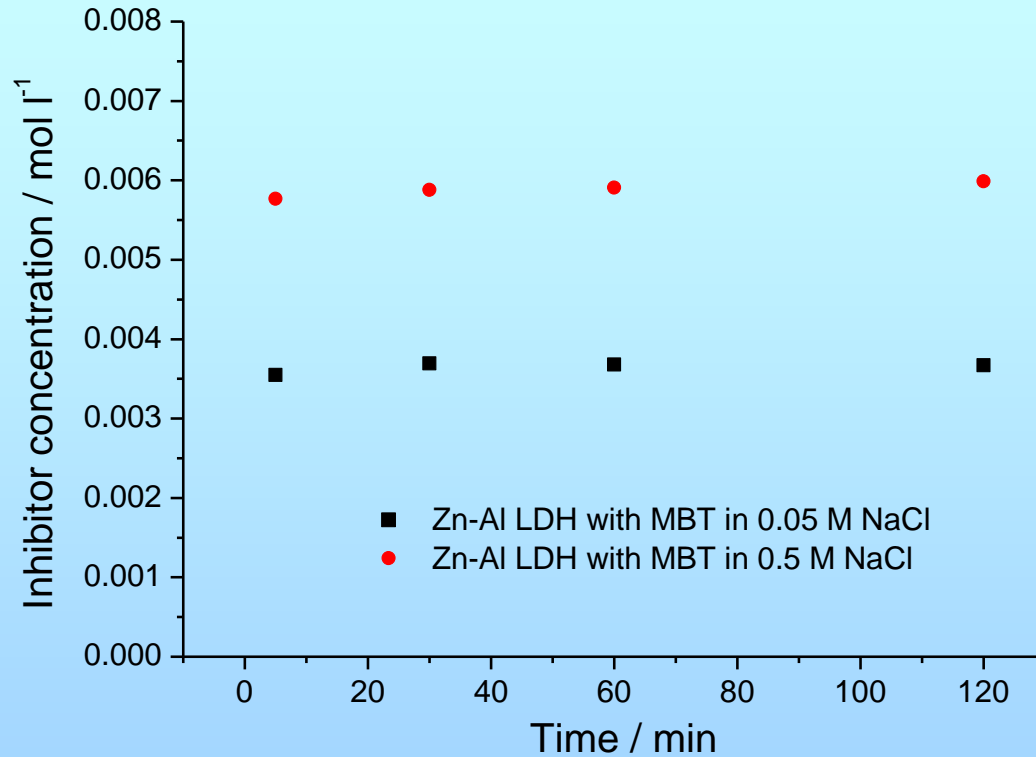
$\text{Zn}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{MBT}$ - 1.71 nm

Release of vanadate from LDH pigments



Concentration of released vanadium vs. time plots for $\text{Zn}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{VO}_3$ LDH in 0.5 M NaCl solutions (200 mg LDH per 25 ml of solution).

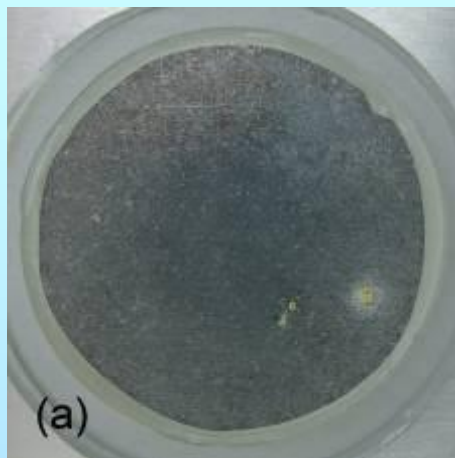
Release of inhibitors from LDH pigments



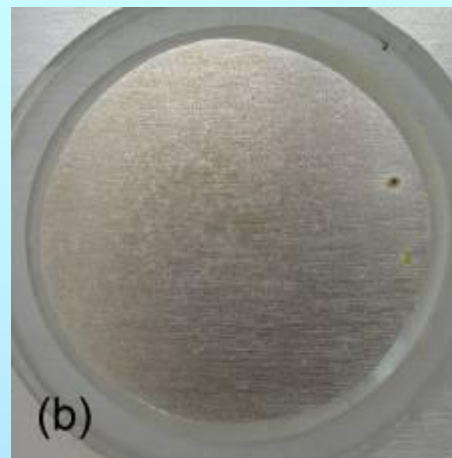
- LDH pigments demonstrate fast release-response
- Release of inhibitor is triggered by chloride ions

Corrosion efficiency of LDH pigments

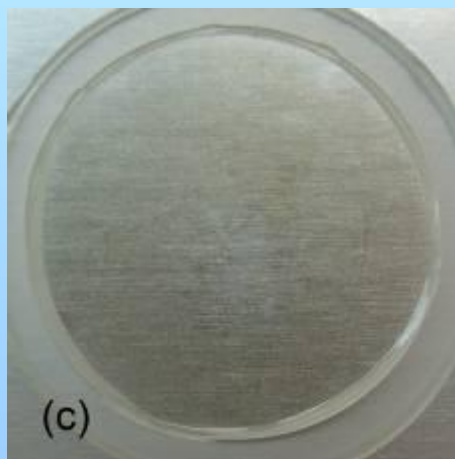
$\text{Mg}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{VO}_3 + 0.05 \text{ M NaCl}$



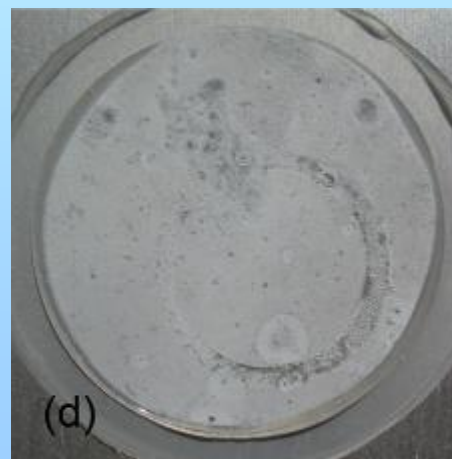
$\text{Zn}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{VO}_3$ (direct)+ 0.05 M NaCl



2 weeks

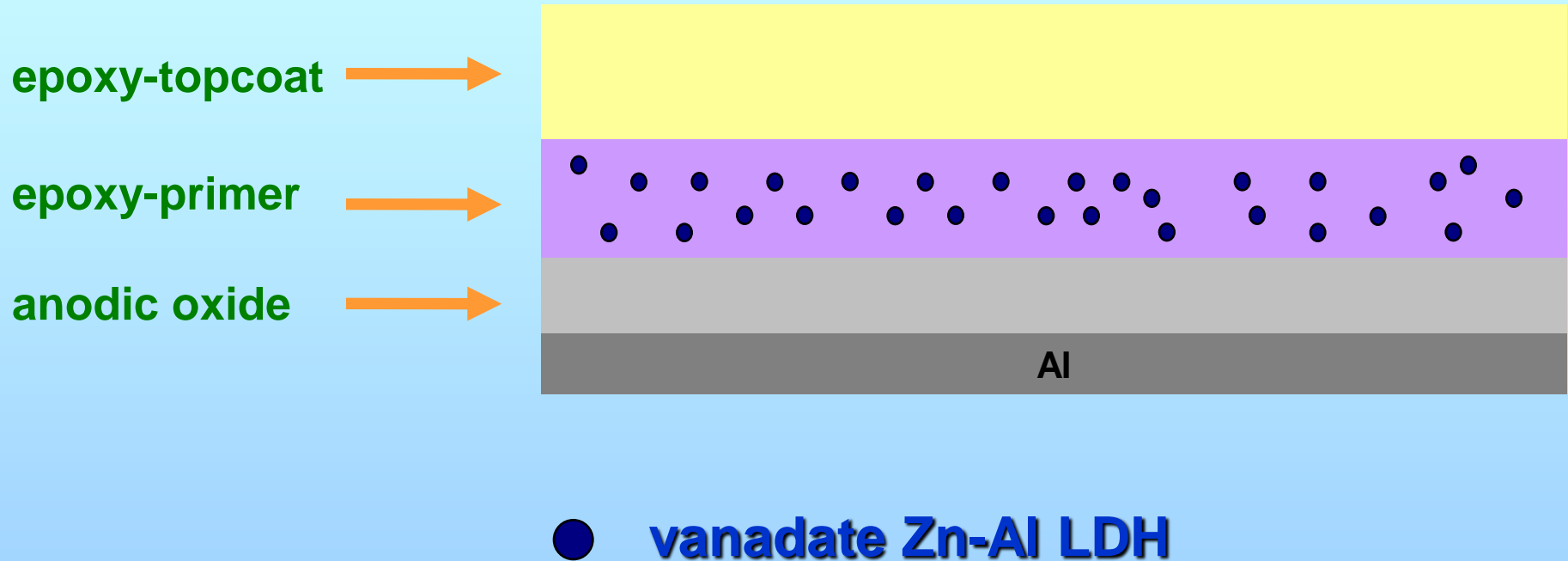


$\text{Zn}_2\text{Al}(\text{OH})_6\text{VO}_3$ (exch.)+ 0.05 M NaCl



0.05 M NaCl

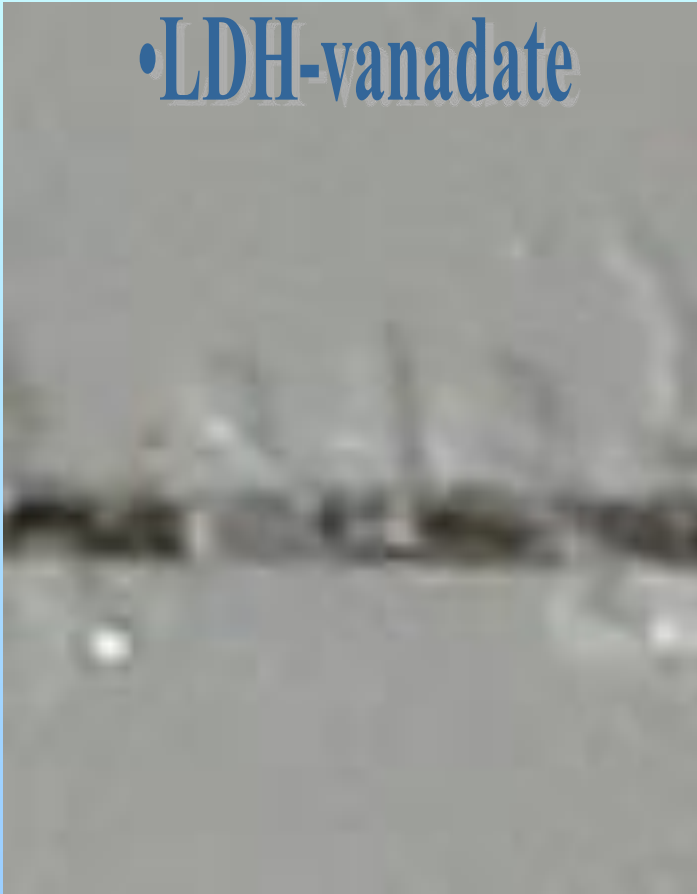
LDH pigments in aerospace coatings



LDH pigments in aerospace coatings

960 h of filiform corrosion tests

•LDH-vanadate



•undoped

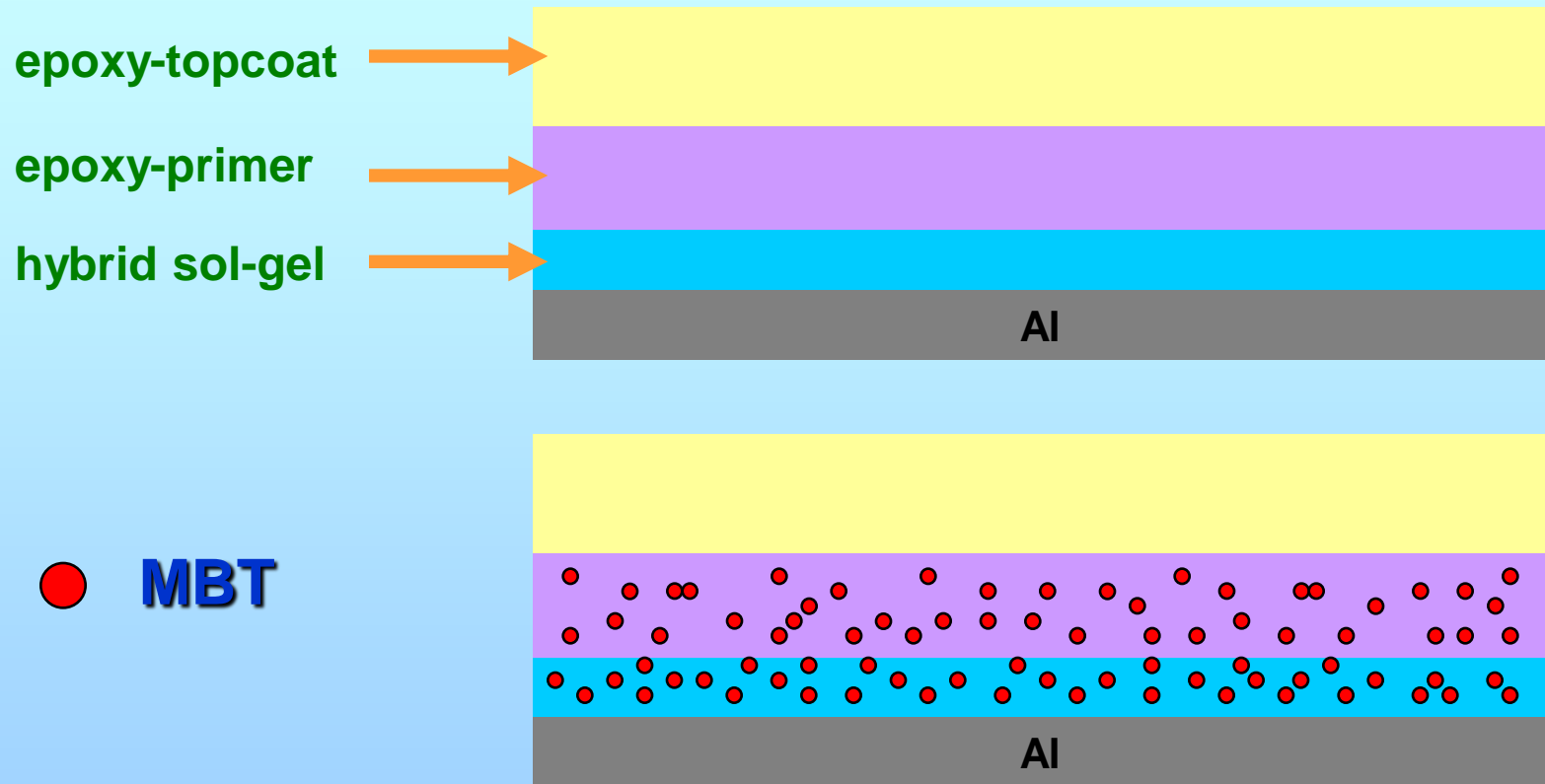


LDH pigments in aerospace coatings

results of filiform corrosion tests

| Sample | 960 h | | 336 h | |
|---|--------------------------|----------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| | Max Filament length [mm] | Amount M1...M5 | Max Filament length [mm] | Amount M1...M5 |
| Zn₂AlVO₃ LDH - 1 | 1,6 | M3 | 1,0 | M2 |
| Zn₂AlVO₃ LDH - 2 | 2,0 | M3 | 1,0 | M2 |
| Undoped - 1 | 2,3 | M3-4 | 1,4 | M2 |
| Undoped - 2 | 2,5 | M3 | 1,2 | M3 |
| Chromate - 1 | 1,6 | M3 | 0,7 | M3 |
| Chromate - 2 | 1,9 | M3 | 0,8 | M3 |

LDH pigments in aerospace coatings

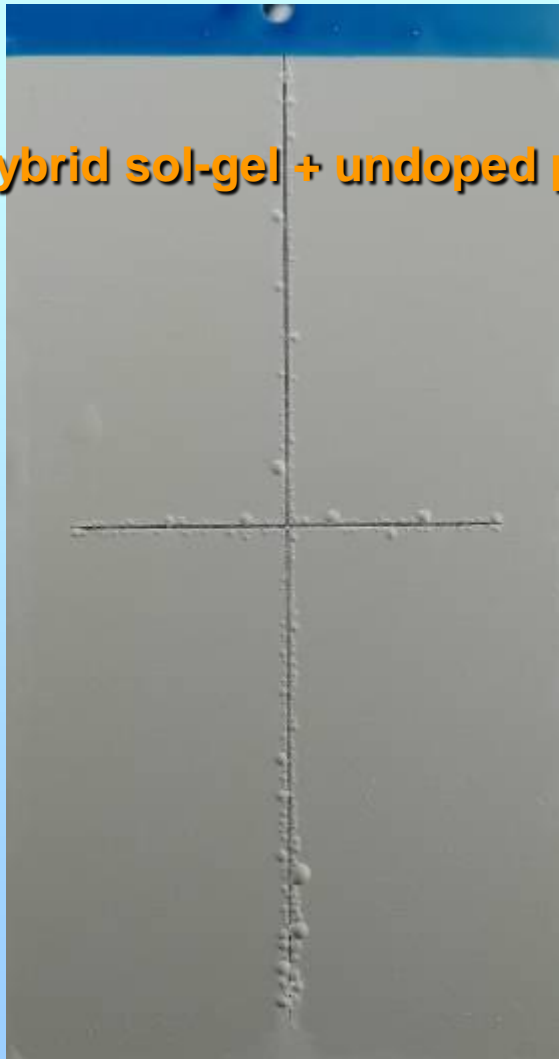


Aerospace coatings with LDH nanocontainers of organic inhibitors

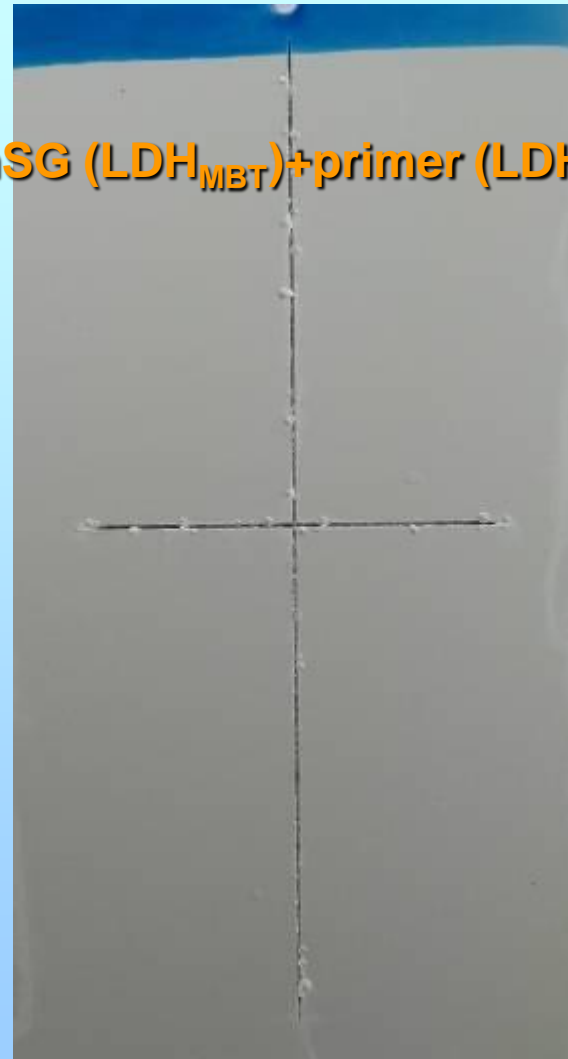
•EN ISO 3665

336 h SST

hybrid sol-gel + undoped primer

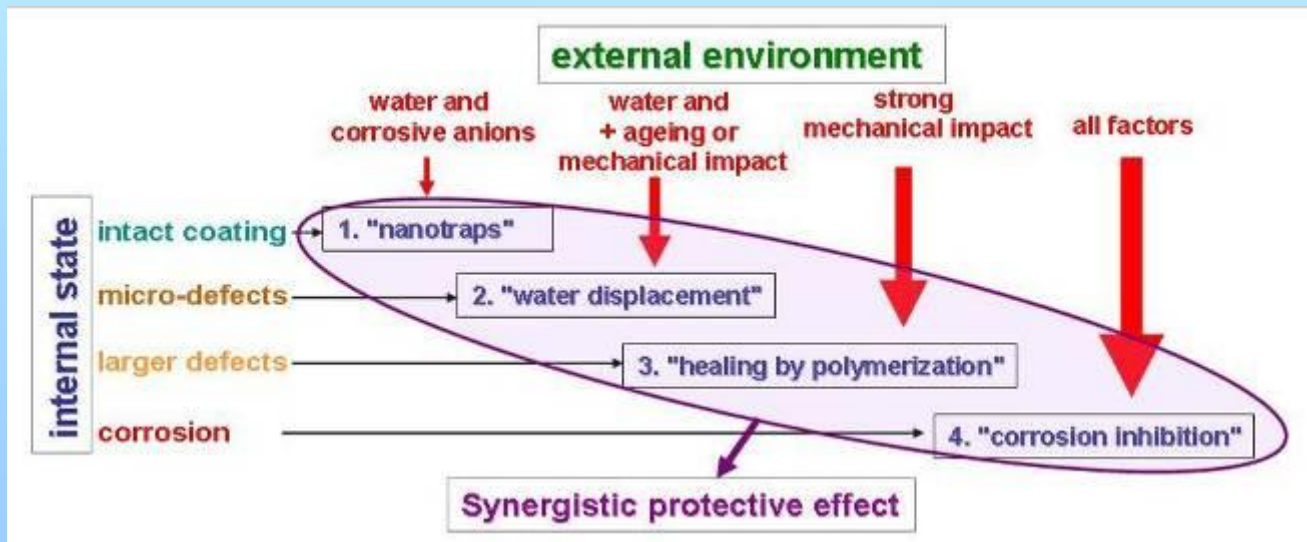


hSG (LDH_{MBT})+primer (LDH_{MBT})



MULTI-LEVEL ACTIVE PROTECTION

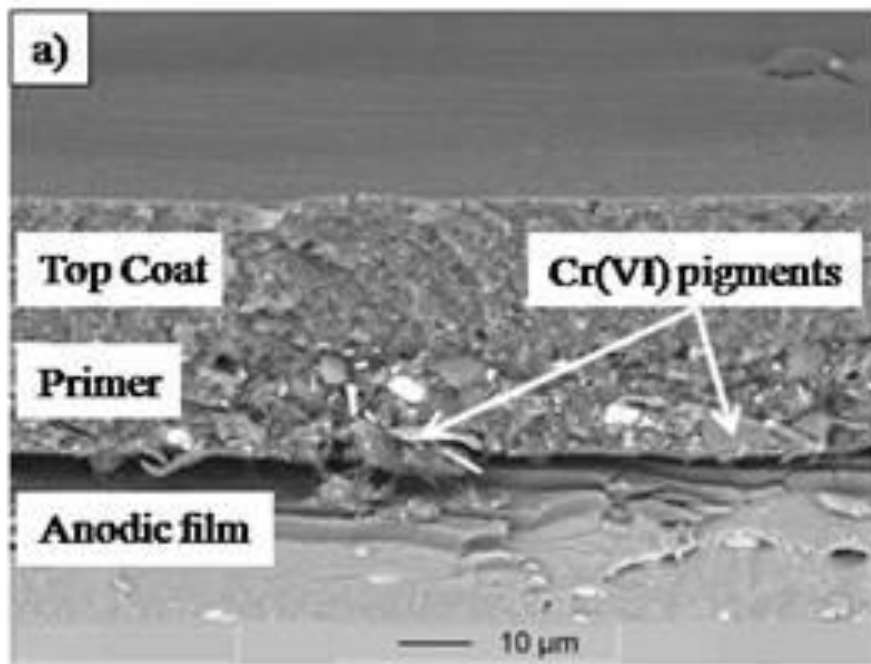
- Active feed-back of the coatings depends on the internal state of the coating system and the external environmental conditions
- Different levels of active protection are working as response to different impacts



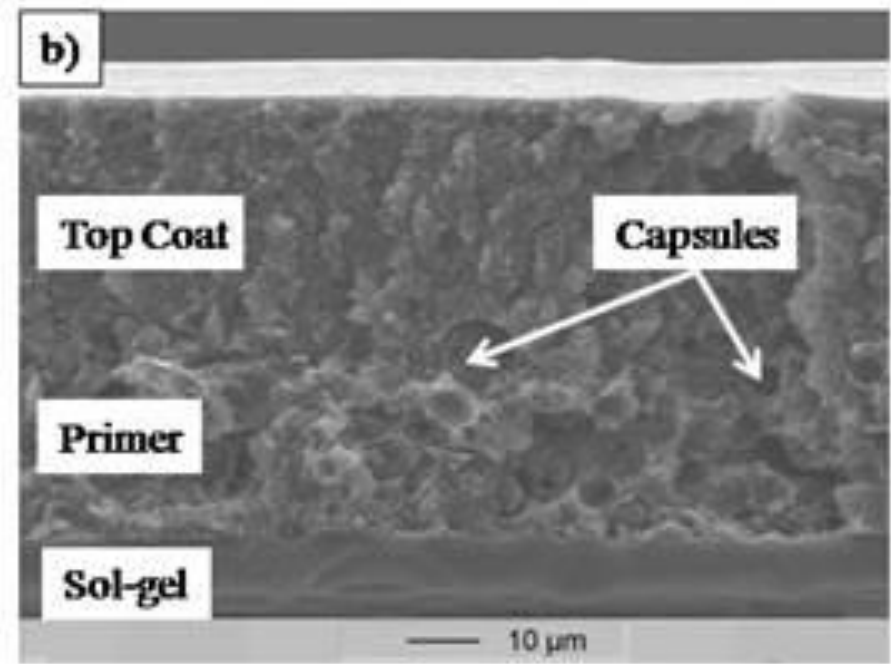
2nd and 4th level: water displacement + corrosion inhibition

Capsules of **water displacing agent** (diisopropylnaphthalene) and **corrosion inhibitor** (MBT) produced by **microemulsion** interfacial polymerization.

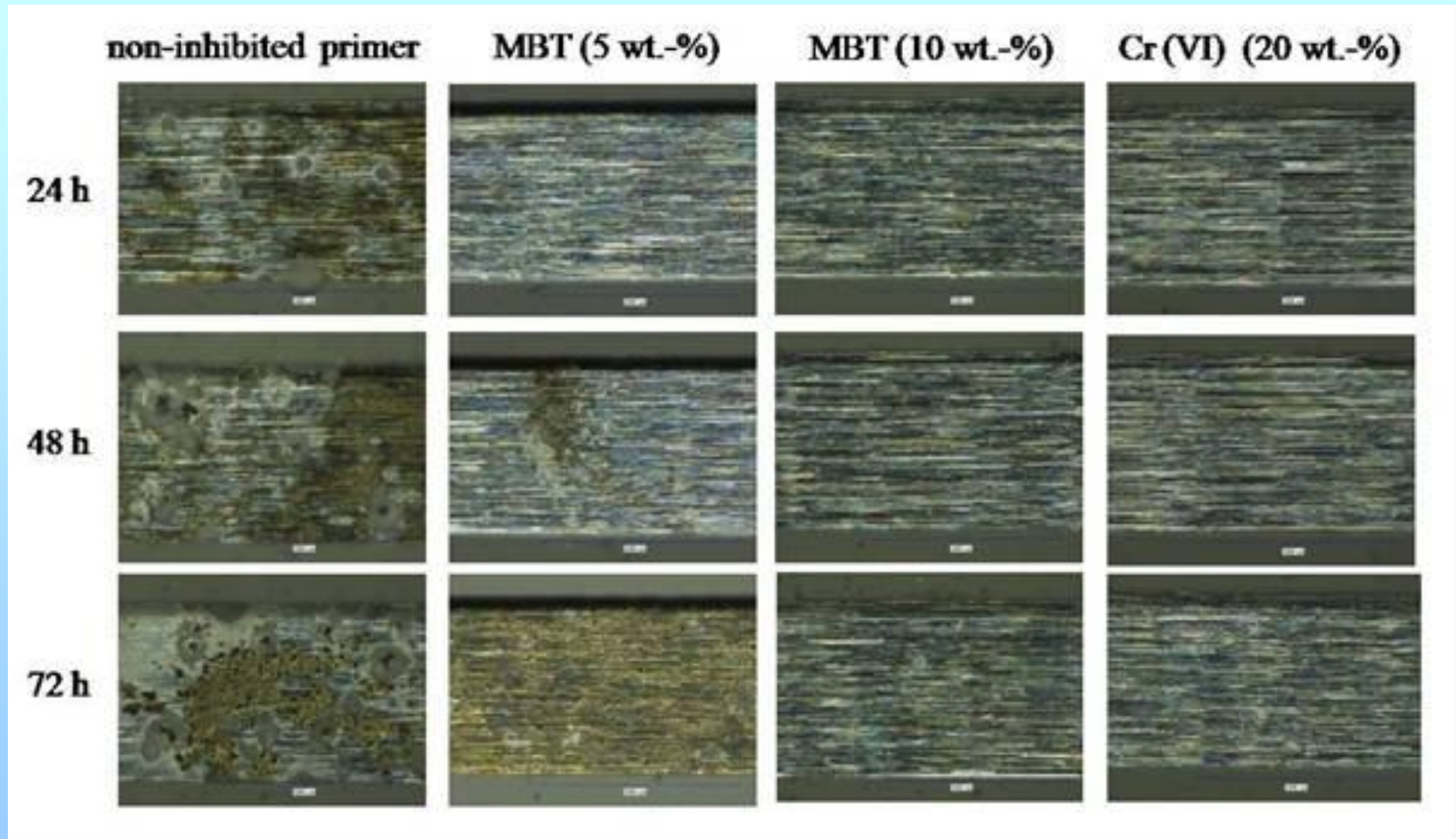
Conventional coating system



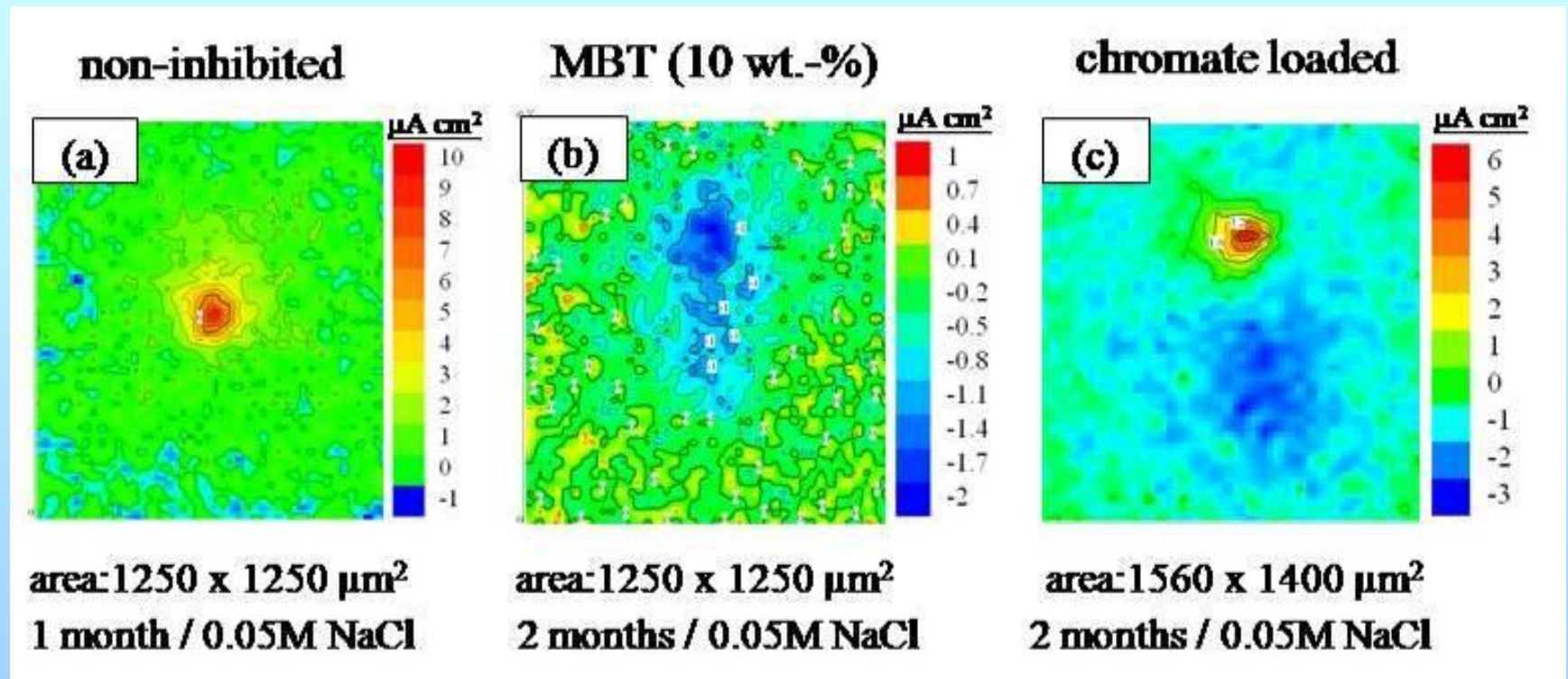
New coating system



Self-healing of defects (2nd + 4th levels)



Self-healing of defects (2nd + 4th levels)



Conclusions

- ✓ *Introduction of the inhibitor in the form of nanocontainers instead of the direct addition to the sol-gel matrix prevents its interaction with components of the coating, which can negatively influence the barrier properties of the hybrid film and lead to the deactivation of the inhibitor;*
- ✓ *Several new approaches of corrosion inhibitor delivery on demand are proposed conferring intelligent self-healing ability to the protective films.*
- ✓ *“Smart” nanoreservoirs of corrosion inhibitors are produced using polyelectrolyte shells assembled by LbL approach. These containers are pH-sensitive providing release of corrosion inhibitor on demand;*
- ✓ *Nanocontainers of corrosion inhibitors based on LDH nanopigments are developed demonstrating effective corrosion protection and self-healing ability;*
- ✓ *New concept of multilevel anticorrosion system based on active nanocontainers for coatings is proposed.*

Acknowledgements

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• **Thank you for attention!**